

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02
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C O N F I D E N T I A L BELGRADE 6753

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PORG, UNGA, US, XF, YO
SUBJECT: US-YUGOSLAV RELATIONS

1. THE PAST FEW DAYS HAVE PRODUCED, IN MINIC'S UNGA SPEECH
AND YUGOSLAVS' COVERAGE OF KARDELJ VISIT, TWO NOTEWORTHY
INDICATIONS OF AN AT LEAST marginally more balanced
YUGOSLAV APPROACH TO CERTAIN BILATERAL AND MULTILATERAL ISSUES
OF MUTUAL CONCERN. AND THE ATMOSPHERE IS SUBSTANTIALLY WARMER.

2. FIRST, MINIC'S SPET 30 SPEECH BEFORE THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
MARKED THE FIRST TIME (TO THE BEST OF OUR KNOWLEDGE)
THAT A HIGH RANKING GOY OFFICIAL HAS PUBLICLY AND
SPECIFICALLY (ALBEIT BRIEFLY) ADDRESSED ISRAEL'S SECURITY
INTERESTS IN THE CONTEXT OF AN OVERALL MIDDLE EAST PEACE
AGREEMENT. RATHER THAN REITERATING USUAL GOY
FORMULATION ABOUT RIGHTS OF ALL (UNNAMED) STATES IN AREA
TO EXIST, MINIC EXPLICITLY MENTIONED ISRAEL, WHICH IS A
SIGNIFICANT STEP FORWARD. (NOTE: WE ASSUME MINIC'S
SPEECH IS AVAILABLE TO IO AND EUR/EE AND COMMEND IT TO BOTH AS
A FAIRLY EXPLICIT EXPOSITION OF GOY POLICY ON A HOST OF
MULTILATERAL ISSUES, MANY OF BILATERAL IMPORT AS WELL.
PARTICULARLY NOTEWORTHY WAS MINIC'S IMPLICIT STATEMENT OF
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SOVIETS' AND EES' CO-RESPONSIBILITY WITH WESTERN DCS FOR
ASSISTING LDC DEVELOPMENT, HIS "BALANCED" CRITICISM OF
"IMPERIALISM" AND "HEGEMONISM", HIS OTHER REMARKS ON THE
MIDDLE-EAST, HIS TREATMENT OF NUCLEAR NON-PROLIFERATION AND
TRANSFER OF NUCLEAR TECHNOLOGY AND HIS DISCUSSION OF
HUMAN RIGHTS AND THE NEED "TO CONDUCT AN OPEN AND
CONSTRUCTIVE DIALOGUE ON THE PROBLEM". OBSERVERS OF THE

NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT WILL NOTE MINIC'S BOW TO THE G-77 AS, IMPLICITLY, THE AUTHORITATIVE LDC ORGANIZATION IN THE ECONOMIC SPHERE, A PREEMINENCE WHICH AT TIMES HAS BEEN SUBTLY CONTESTED BY THE YUGOSLAVS ON BEHALF OF THE NAM.)

3. SECOND, YUGOSLAV MEDIA COVERAGE OF KARDELJ'S VISIT TO THE US HAS NOT ONLY BEEN FULLY AS PROMINENT AND ABUNDANT AS WE HAD HOPED, THE CONTENT OF THE COVERAGE HAS EVIDENCED A PERCEPTIBLY GREATER UNDERSTANDING OF US CONCERNS AND APPRECIATION OF US INITIATIVES THAN IS TYPICALLY THE CASE HERE.

-- AS REPORTED IN BELGRADE 6488, "BORBA" FRONT PAGED A TANJUG COMMENTARY ON SEPT 28 WHICH, INTER ALIA, REFERRED TO THE "ACTIVITY OF SMALL GROUPS OF FASCIST TERRORIST EMIGRES (AS) OBVIOUSLY DIRECTED AGAINST THE UNITED STATES AS WELL AS AGAINST THE INTERESTS OF THE TWO COUNTRIES AND OF RELATIONS IN THE WORLD IN GENERAL." (A FAR CRY FROM PAST ALLEGATIONS OF OFFICIAL USE TOLERANCE OF, IF NOT CONNIVANCE IN, SUCH ACTIVITY.)

--"POLITIKA" RAN FRONT PAGE GUSTINCIC PIECE SEPT 30 ON KARDELJ VISIT IN WHICH HE COMMENTED FAVORABLY ON THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION'S "ATTENTION TO SUCH ASPECTS AS RELATIONS BETWEEN AMERICA AND THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, ITS MORE CONSTRUCTIVE APPROACH TO THE NOTION OF NON-ALIGNMENT, ITS ATTITUDE TOWARD EUROCOMMUNISM AND SO ON."
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-- AGAIN, COMMENTARY REPORTED IN BELGRADE 6488 NOTED THAT "US IS ONE OF A SMALL NUMBER OF WESTERN COUNTRIES WHICH ACTUALLY TREAT YUGOSLAVIA AS A DEVELOPING COUNTRY AND GIVE IT ADEQUATE ASSISTANCE."

-- FINALLY, AS REPORTED IN BELGRADE 6576, ZAGREB DAILY "VECERNJI LIST", COMMENTING SEPT 30 ON RECENT CEASE-FIRE IN SOUTHERN LEBANON, SAID "...IT IS THE RESULT OF DIPLOMATIC ACTION BY THE US ... PRESIDENT CARTER COULD CONSIDER THIS AGREEMENT AS A GREAT SUCCESS..."
WORTZEL

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